

TOP SECRET

26 February 1958

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

ho. Soviet military control of nuclear weapons: Control of Soviet atomic artillery, formerly exercised by front (army group) commanders, has now been delegated to field commanders of ground armies, and may be further delegated to division commanders at some future date.

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Defense Minister Malinovsky recently criticized senior Soviet officers in East Germany for failing to simulate the use of atomic weapons during maneuvers in which these weapons were theoretically available. [REDACTED]

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OR Civil defense in the USSR: Civil defense training is receiving renewed emphasis in the USSR. According to Moscow radio, Soviet officials have stated that "85 percent of the population" completed a ten-hour course in atomic civil defense during 1955 and 1956. More intensive courses, compulsory for the whole population, are under way with completion scheduled for 1960. [REDACTED]
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OR Soviet forces in East Germany: The urgent assembly of 140 trains for the movement of Soviet troops out of East Germany was under way on 22 and 23 February. These trains could probably accommodate the two mechanized divisions and smaller units which the USSR has announced it would withdraw. If a maximum effort is made, withdrawal could be completed by about 1 March. [REDACTED]
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II. ASIA-AFRICA

Tunisian situation: Bitterness against France is so widespread that President Bourguiba probably could not re-establish close relations with Paris even if he so desired. [REDACTED]

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25X1 Foreign Minister Pineau has denied that France intends to reconquer Tunisia, and the French chief of staff apparently believes it militarily infeasible. [REDACTED]

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DAILY BRIEF

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Jordan: Internal security problems continue to be a major concern of King Husayn's government. [redacted]

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[redacted] On 23 February the government closed schools in Nablus, a center of antigovernment agitation by Arab refugee elements. The government's antisubversive moves are likely to have only a temporary effect. [redacted]

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OK

Indonesia: President Sukarno is gaining support from Javanese political leaders for military operations against the dissidents, and army troops, which the rebels claim are embarking for operations against Central Sumatra, are beginning to arrive in Djakarta. Meanwhile an armed dissident group in Atjeh, North Sumatra, is preparing to attack in the area around Medan if the central government begins ground attacks in Central Sumatra. [redacted]

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OK

Japan-South Korea: The Japanese and South Korean governments, after a four-year impasse, have agreed to resume formal negotiations on normalizing relations about 1 March. Tokyo has apparently dropped its insistence that Japanese fishermen detained by South Korea be repatriated prior to resuming talks. Several major problems, including that of the disputed Rhee line, will probably make the negotiations thorny and protracted. [redacted]
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USSR Gives Army Commanders Control of Atomic Weapons

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[REDACTED] the USSR has delegated control over atomic artillery to ground army commanders and may at some future date give division commanders control over certain atomic weapons. Soviet tactical doctrine previously had given only Front (Army Group) commanders this authority.

Marshal Malinovsky during a visit to East Germany earlier this month pointed out to a party conference that commanders had not shown proper initiative during training, failing to simulate the use of new weapons and equipment properly under conditions of atomic warfare. Army General Zakharov (the new commander of GSFG) pointed out that all modern combat will take place under atomic warfare conditions which necessitate rapid troop movements and greater dispersion.

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[REDACTED] there are no atomic weapons in GSFG, training in GSFG has emphasized conditions of atomic warfare for several years. As recently as 11 February a simulated atomic explosion was observed in a GSFG training area. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
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USSR Officials Report on Civil Defense Training

The USSR has evidently intensified its civil defense training program since 1954 and has taken steps to adapt it for defense against atomic weapons. The first official data on the progress of this program now have been released by Soviet officials.

At a congress in Moscow in early February of the Society for Cooperation with the Army, Air Force, and Navy (DOSAAF), Deputy Minister of the Interior O. V. Tolstikov stated that "85 percent of the population" had received training in "antiatomic" defense during 1955 and 1956. Speakers at the congress said that this ten-hour training course has been superseded by a 22-hour course, which the entire population must complete by the end of 1958. A further, presumably more intensive, training program is to be completed by 1960.

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Withdrawal of Soviet Troops From East Germany

The USSR may be about to begin troop withdrawals from East Germany in line with its 6 January announcement that it would reduce its armed forces by 300,000 men, including 41,000 from the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany (GSFG). Moscow later announced that among the units to be withdrawn from GSFG would be two mechanized divisions, one antiaircraft division, five independent antiaircraft units, and three artillery brigades. This movement was to be completed by mid-March.

25X1 [redacted] the East German Traffic Ministry on 22 February, received orders to assemble 140 trains for the movement of Soviet troops back to the USSR. This amount of transport could probably accommodate the personnel and equipment of the units designated for withdrawal. Assembly of the trains, on a crash priority, was in progress on 22 and 23 February.

These units would account for about 25,000 men. The balance of the planned 41,000 reduction could come from manpower savings resulting from the recent reorganization of GSFG. The reduction in GSFG from 22 to 20 line divisions will not seriously reduce Soviet capabilities in East Germany. [redacted]

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

The Tunisian Situation

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] French Foreign Minister Pineau, however, on 23 February publicly denied that France is contemplating the reconquest of Tunisia, and the French chief of staff seems to view such a move as militarily infeasible considering the state of French manpower resources.

Bitterness against France now is so widespread that public opinion would not permit President Bourguiba to re-establish close relations with Paris if he desired. Bourguiba himself is under intensified criticism for not keeping pressure on France and the United States for the immediate evacuation of all French troops. The American ambassador feels that Bourguiba is unlikely to recoup the prestige he enjoyed locally before the French bombing of Sakiet Sidi Youssef on 8 February.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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Indonesia

President Sukarno has won significant Javanese support for his decision to use force against the Central Sumatra and North Celebes dissidents. Army troops are beginning to arrive in Djakarta and the rebels claim that some are embarking there for operations against Central Sumatra. An armed dissident organization in Atjeh, North Sumatra, on the other hand, is preparing to attack the pro-Djakarta area around Medan if the central government begins ground attacks in Central Sumatra.

[redacted] Sukarno has gained dominance over Javanese elements of the orthodox Moslem party Nahdlatul Ulama and the National party, and now is working on Javanese members of the anti-Communist Masjumi.

[redacted] Sukarno is deliberately making the fight against the rebels an ethnic struggle of Javanese against non-Javanese. He has continued firm support of the Communist party, which itself is chiefly Java-based.

Army commanders in most non-Javanese areas have reiterated their loyalty, but their statements have frequently been vague and it is unlikely that they could supply troops from their commands for use against the dissidents. If ground troops are used, it is almost certain that they will be recruited in Java.

[redacted]

[redacted]

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[redacted]

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Japan and South Korea to Resume Formal Negotiations

Japan and South Korea will attempt to settle their long-standing differences when formal negotiations for normalizing relations are resumed on 1 March. Talks broke off more than four years ago when a Japanese negotiator made a statement which was considered an insult by Seoul. The negotiations apparently will re-open despite the failure of both sides to complete the repatriation of detainees which had been agreed upon as a prior condition. Tokyo already fears that detained Japanese fishermen will be held as hostages during the negotiations.

Serious substantive disputes could cause a new deadlock at any time. Seoul is demanding that all the 1,200 Koreans who entered Japan illegally after World War II be repatriated to South Korea. Some of them have asked to go to North Korea, and Tokyo is seeking to compromise by permitting them to remain in Japan.

Another major controversy concerns the Rhee line, which extends 60 miles or more from the Korean coast, inside of which Japanese fishing vessels have been seized by South Korean patrol boats. An understanding has been reached between the countries on property claims, but not on territorial problems or the return of Korean political exiles in Japan as well as Korean art treasures which were removed during the Japanese occupation.

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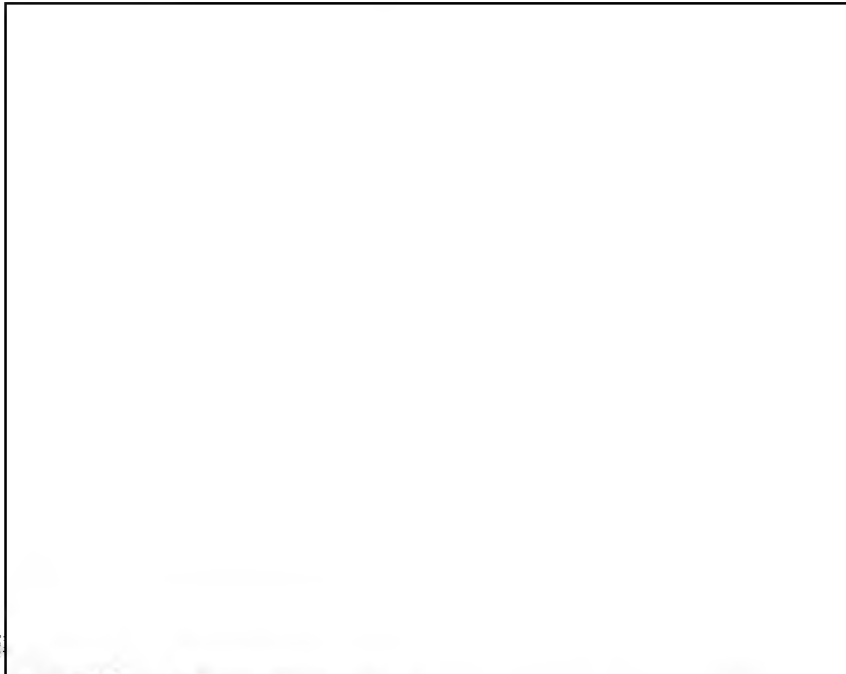
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